

on its interior a third cylinder section coupled directly to a fourth cylinder section wherein said fourth cylinder section has a smooth inner surface and is present within said first cylinder section and said second cylinder section, third cylinder section being of greater diameter than fourth cylinder section, the end of said third cylinder section joined to fourth cylinder section being threaded; and
a base being cylindrical and having a threaded end for threaded connection within said third cylinder section of said seated connector.

5. (Amended) The pipe assembly connection of Claim [4] 3 wherein said first cylinder section is of wider diameter than said second cylinder section.

A clean rewritten version of the claims is contained in Exhibit A.

REMARKS

A. Claim Rejections

Examiner rejected Claims 1-5 and 7-8 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Plaquin et al (U.S. 4,426,105). In addition Examiner rejected Claim 6 as being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Plaquin et al in view of Singleton (U.S. 2,107,716). Claims 1 and 5 have been amended to overcome the references cited by the Examiner. Plaquin et al does not disclose a "seated connector having ... on its interior a third cylinder section coupled directly to a fourth cylinder section wherein said fourth cylinder section has a smooth inner surface and is present within said first cylinder section and said second cylinder section, third cylinder section being of greater diameter than fourth cylinder section, the end of said third cylinder section joined to fourth cylinder

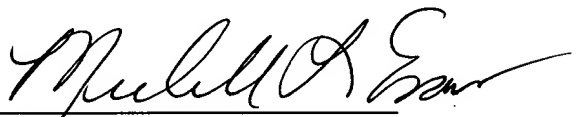
section being threaded" nor does Plaquin et al disclose a "base being cylindrical and having a threaded end for threaded connection within said third cylinder section of said seated connector". Claim 4 has been cancelled.

Applicant has considered all points made by the Examiner in the Office Action dated March 21, 2003 and has incorporated Examiner's suggestions to ensure compliance with the applicable rules. In view of the above, it is submitted that Claims 1-3 and 5-8 are in a condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections is respectfully requested.

If impediments to allowance of claims 1-3 and 5-8 remain and a telephone conference between the undersigned and the examiner would help remove such impediments in the opinion of the examiner, a telephone conference is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited on the date shown below with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to the "Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231", as follows:

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EXHIBIT A

Σu B1 > 1. (Amended) A pipe assembly connection comprising:
a seated connector having on its exterior a first cylinder section contiguous with a first lipped portion, said first lipped portion being contiguous with a second cylinder section and on its interior a third cylinder section coupled directly to a fourth cylinder section wherein said fourth cylinder section has a smooth inner surface and is present within said first cylinder section and said second cylinder section, third
A1 cylinder section being of greater diameter than fourth cylinder section, the end of said third cylinder section joined to fourth cylinder section being threaded; and a base being cylindrical and having a threaded end for threaded connection within said third cylinder section of said seated connector.

Σu B1 > 5. (Amended) The pipe assembly connection of Claim 3 wherein said first cylinder
A2 section is of wider diameter than said second cylinder section.